Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-16 are pending, and are rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e)

Responsive to the rejection of claims 1-16, applicants respectfully submit that these claims are not anticipated by US Pat. No. 5,974,043 ("Solomon") for the reasons discussed below.

Claim 1 recites a method for processing a voice call over an Internet by an Internet telephone set for used in a home environment, the Internet phone set having an Internet interface device and a wireless device, the method comprising the steps of receiving, by the Internet interface device, a signal from a cable network, the signal representing Internet protocol data packets of the voice call and being both modulated in a first format and compressed to match a format of the cable network; demodulating, by the Internet interface device, the signal modulated in the first format; decompressing, by the Internet interface device, the demodulated signal; compressing, by the Internet interface device, the decompressed signal into a format of a home environment; modulating, by the Internet interface device, the compressed signal into a second format; wirelessly transmitting, by the Internet interface device, the signal modulated in the second format to the wireless device; and demodulating and decompressing the signal modulated in the second format in the wireless device. Applicants submit that Solomon does not disclose or suggest the underlined features, as alleged.

Solomon discloses a telephone for communicating information using the PSTN or a WAN, the telephone being connectable to a computer and a primary telephone line. See col. 1, lines 58-62. An example of a system using this type of telephone is

5

shown FIG. 1, where the user local equipment includes a WAN telephone system 6 communicatively connected to a computer 4 and to a primary telephone line 16. See col. 6, lines 53-56. The WAN telephone system 6 is connected to the computer 4 by a bidirectional line 14 and by a modem line 12. See col. 6, lines 57-60. The computer 4 is connected to an external or internal modem. See col. 7, lines 3-5. The WAN telephone system 6 may include a cordless handset 42 and a base station 48. See col. 10, lines 14-15. The cordless handset 42 and the base station 48 are implemented using 900 MHz band spread spectrum transceivers, which are based on frequency hopping or direct sequence, providing high security against eavesdropping and manning. See col. 10, lines 36-41.

In a WAN mode of operation, analog voice signals from the handset are digitized and processed by the WAN telephone system's electronic circuits, and the digitized data is sent to computer 4 through the bidirectional data communication line 14. See col. 7, lines 29-33. The voice data may be compressed by the computer 4. See col. 8, lines 14-18, and col. 19, lines 32-36. The voice data is then output to the WAN telephone system 6 through the modem line 12 to another computer via a modem line 12 coupled to another WAN telephone system used by another user. See col. 7, lines 33-42.

First, although Solomon discloses that the voice packets may be compressed and sent over to another computer coupling to a WAN telephone system through a modem, Solomon does not disclose or suggest that the voice data packets is compressed to match a format of a cable network, as alleged. As discussed above, Solomon discloses a system using a telephone network, not a cable network as recited in claim 1.

6

Second, although Solomon discloses that the interface between the cordless handset and the base station in a WAN telephone system is the 900 MHz spread spectrum cordless telephone interface, the spread spectrum is a technique for enabling multiple access to a shared medium, not a compression technique. As known in the art, the compression must be done before using the spread spectrum to transmit the data. Although Solomon discloses that compressed voice packets can be transmitted between two computers (relied upon as part of the Internet interface device), the compression, as discussed above, is implemented in the computer 4 after the analog voice from the handset (relied upon as the wireless device) has been digitized. Nowhere does Solomon disclose or suggest that after received voice packets have been decompressed by the received computer 4, the decompressed voice packets are compressed again before being sent from the base station (relied upon as part of the Internet interface device) to a handset. As such, Solomon does not disclose or suggest the features of compressing, by an Internet interface device, the decompressed signal into a format of a home environment and decompressing the signal modulated in a second format in a wireless device, as alleged in the Office Action.

In light of the fact that Solomon does not disclose or suggest the features of receiving Internet protocol voice data packets compressed to match a format of a cable network, compressing, by an Internet interface device, the decompressed signal into a format of a home environment, and decompressing the signal modulated in a second format in a wireless device, as recited in claim 1, applicants submit that claim 1, and dependent claims 2-4, 13-16, are patentable over Solomon.

Furthermore, claim 3 recites that the modulation schemes for the first and second formats are the same. As pointed out in the Office Action, the modulation

scheme (relied upon as the second format) used between the handset and the base station in Solomon is spread spectrum. However, Solomon does not disclose or suggest a modulation scheme used by the modems. Since spread spectrum is used in shared media such as cable or air, the modems communicating using a dedicated telephone link should not use spread spectrum. Voice modems, as known in the art, use modulation schemes such as V.32, V.34, and V.90. Thus, Solomon does not disclose or suggest that the two modulation schemes are the same, and claim 3 is patentable over Solomon for this reason alone.

Since claim 5 recites similar features as claim 1, applicants submit that arguments made above are also applicable to claim 5, and claim 5, and dependent claims 6-12 are patentable over Solomon.
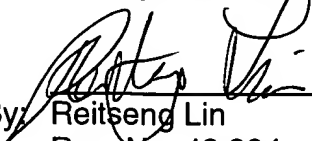
Conclusion

Having fully addressed the Examiner's objections and rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6813, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Fee

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.
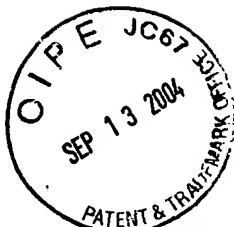
Respectfully submitted,

By Reitseng Lin
Reg. No. 42,804
Phone (609) 734-6813

Patent Operations
Thomson Licensing Inc.
P.O. Box 5312
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
September 10, 2004

9